AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-6 and 8-9.

Please amend claims 7, 10 and 11 as follows.

1-6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method for producing a ~~said~~ proton conductive solid polymer electrolyte ~~according to claim 6~~ comprising an acidic group-possessing polymer which has an acidic group and a basic polymer which is basic, said method comprising:

dissolving, in a solvent, said acidic group-possessing polymer and a monomer which produces polybenzimidazole by means of polymerization,

polymerizing said monomer to produce said polybenzimidazole,

compatibilizing said polybenzimidazole and said acidic group-possessing polymer with each other to produce a compatibilized polymer; and

separating said compatibilized polymer from said solvent, wherein polyphosphoric acid is used as said solvent.

8-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method for producing a ~~said~~ proton conductive solid polymer electrolyte ~~according to claim 6~~ comprising an acidic group-possessing polymer which has an acidic group and a basic polymer which is basic, said method comprising:

dissolving, in a solvent, said acidic group-possessing polymer and a monomer which produces polybenzimidazole by means of polymerization,

polymerizing said monomer to produce said polybenzimidazole,

compatibilizing said polybenzimidazole and said acidic group-possessing polymer with each other to produce a compatibilized polymer; and

separating said compatibilized polymer from said solvent, wherein a mixture of aromatic tetramine and aromatic dibasic acid is used as said monomer.

11. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method for producing a ~~said~~ proton conductive solid

polymer electrolyte ~~according to claim 6~~ comprising an acidic group-possessing polymer which has an acidic group and a basic polymer which is basic, said method comprising:

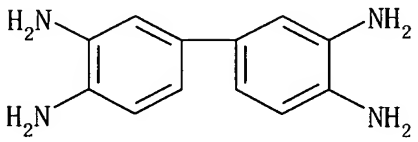
dissolving, in a solvent, said acidic group-possessing polymer and a monomer which produces polybenzimidazole by means of polymerization,

polymerizing said monomer to produce said polybenzimidazole,

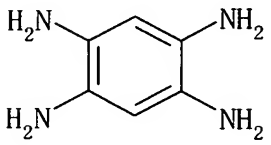
compatibilizing said polybenzimidazole and said acidic group-possessing polymer with each other to produce a compatibilized polymer; and

separating said compatibilized polymer from said solvent, wherein an aromatic compound, which has a carboxylate ester group and a pair of amino groups bonded to an aromatic nuclear, said pair of amino groups being mutually positioned at ortho-positions, is used as said monomer.

12. (original) The method for producing said proton conductive solid polymer electrolyte according to claim 10, wherein a compound represented by any one of the following chemical formulas (16) to (18) is used as said aromatic tetramine:



· · · (16)



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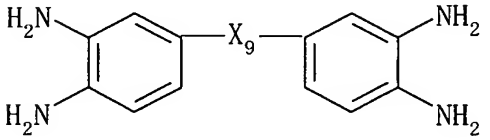
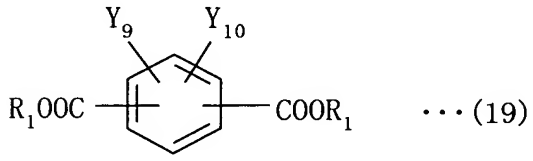


· · · (18)

wherein X9 is any one of O, S, SO_2, CH_2, and CO in said chemical formula (18).

13. (original) The method for producing said proton conductive solid polymer electrolyte according to claim 10, wherein a compound represented by any one of the following chemical formulas (19) and (20) is used as said aromatic dibasic acid:



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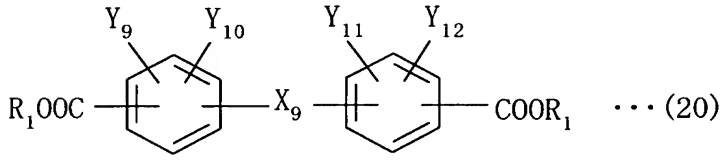
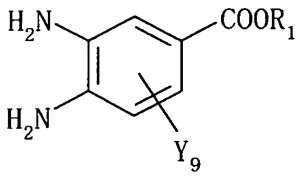


· · · (20)

wherein Y9 to Y12 are functional groups independently selected from H, CH_3, C_2H_5, F, Cl, I, Br, and Ph, and R1 represents H, CH_3, C_2H_5, or Ph (phenyl group).

14. (original) The method for producing said proton conductive solid polymer electrolyte according to claim 11, wherein a compound represented by the following chemical formula (21) is used as said aromatic compound:

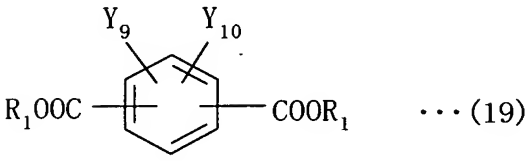


· · · (21)

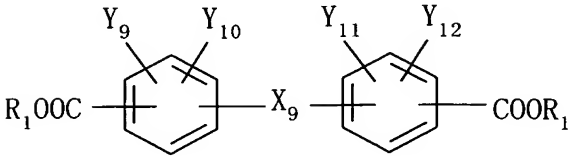
wherein Y9 is a functional group independently selected from H, CH_3, C_2H_5, F, Cl, I, Br, and Ph, and R1 represents H, CH_3, C_2H_5, or Ph (phenyl group).

15. (original) The method for producing said proton conductive solid polymer

electrolyte according to claim 12, wherein a compound represented by any one of the following chemical formulas and is used as said aromatic dibasic acid:



· · · (19)



· · · (20)

wherein Y9 to Y12 are functional groups independently selected from H, CH_3, C_2H_5, F, Cl, I, Br, and Ph, and R1 represents H, CH_3, C_2H_5, or Ph.